Improving the conditions of homebased women workers

*208. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government propose to take in the wake of Hon'ble Prime Minister's remarks made in April, 2007 that perhaps there is, in our societies, a cultural bias for women to be in home based work;

(b) if so, whether its further compounding, through increase in sub-contracting and outsourcing, resulting in higher percentage of home based women workers to 51 per cent in 2005 from only 35 per cent in 2000 would be controlled; and

(c) what measures are on the anvil to ensure that skills and variegated experiences of women workers are utilized in nation building activities at par with those of male workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) (a) to (c) Ministry of Labour and Employment has informed that there is no authentic data on home based workers and they are not recognized as an independent category in the Census. An enactment to provide social security to the unorganized workers including home based workers is under active consideration of the Government.

New panel on mineral policy

*209. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a new panel on mineral policy to attract investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what were the short-comings as per the Hoda Committee report; and

(d) how far it is proposed to address those issues?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) A new National Mineral Policy has been drafted to attract investments in the Mining Sector. The recommendations of the Hoda Committee report were considered while drafting the new Mineral Policy which is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of solar energy plants

†*210. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of solar energy plants being set up in the States, as on date;

(b) the total amount spent thereon, so far;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.